

**Town of Sunset Beach
Monthly Council
Work Session, Public Hearing(s) and Regular Meeting
February 6, 2017**

MINUTES

Members Present: Mayor Robert Forrester, Mayor Pro-Tem Carol Scott, Councilman Peter Larkin, Councilman Mark Benton, Councilman John Corbett and Councilman Rich Cerrato

Members absent: None

Attorney & Staff Present: Susan Parker, Town Administrator; Bonita Bray, Finance Director; Kevin Dempsey, Fire Chief; Dustin Graham, Public Works Director; Joe Smith, Interim Police Chief; Wes MacLeod, Planning Consultant (Cape Fear Council of Governments); Cindi Stephenson, Administrative Assistant; and Lisa Anglin, Town Clerk

Mayor Forrester called the Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Closed Session

COUNCILMAN LARKIN MADE A MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS A PERSONNEL MATTER. MAYOR FORRESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

MAYOR PRO-TEM SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND RECONVENE MEETING. MAYOR FORRESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Mayor Forrester advised that during Closed Session, the Council discussed a personnel matter. No action taken.

Work Session

Mayor Forrester called for agenda amendments and general discussions by the Council.

Draft Agenda Review

The Council reviewed the agenda and made the following amendments:

- Old Business 6g – Financing of Fire Truck
- New Business 7e – Beacon Editorial Transparency

Mayor and Council Comments/Discussions

The Council discussed the Sunset Lakes Blvd. roadway washout created by Hurricane Matthew which has left the road impassable and questioned if the Town could assist with the repair. The Council reached a consensus for Councilman Benton and Susan Parker, Town Administrator to meet with the HOA Representative to assist with a solution.

Mayor and Council Comments/Discussions (Cont.)

Councilman Larkin advised that a Meeting to review proposed routes for the Carolina Bays Parkway Extension (SC Hwy. 31) is scheduled for February 7, 2017 in the Brunswick Community College facility on Highway 17 in Carolina Shores from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

Mayor Forrester advised that a Community Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 25, 2017 at 10:00 am in the Jones/Byrd Clubhouse in Sea Trail Plantation.

Monthly Meeting

The Meeting convened at 7:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Approval of the Draft Agenda

MAYOR PRO-TEM SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. MAYOR FORRESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

Nina Marable 502 North Shore Dr. – Voiced concerns with the final draft of the CAMA Land Use Plan citing the maps are outdated and mislabeled.

Douglas Mathews 1123 Sea Bourne Way – Questioned what amendments are proposed for the cabanas; Mayor explained.

David Dowd 1790 Queen Anne St. – Advised that the 7:00 am start time for the cabana companies to begin installing cabanas will hinder the businesses and cause issues with pedestrians and vehicles; advised that 12' apart rule will be hard to police as a person could install a cabana between two that were already installed.

Ann Bokelman 404 3rd St. – Agrees with most of the compromises reached concerning the cabanas but requested Council to reconsider the 12' apart rule; encouraged the Council to show respect for each other, listen while sharing thoughts and opinions and agree to disagree respectfully.

Joe Santavicca 9109 Forest Dr. – Advised that the cabana regulations are confusing; questioned if cabana patrons will be allowed to place chairs outside of cabana, thinks Council is trying to restrict the number of cabanas allowed on strand.

Town Administrator Report

Planning Director Position – Susan Parker, Town Administrator advised that twelve (12) resumes have been received.

Police Chief Search - Parker advised that the Police Chief Panel is scheduled to interview the applicants on February 17, 2017.

Main Street Sidewalk – Parker advised that the engineering of the Main Street sidewalk has begun.

Departmental Reports

Police – Interim Police Chief Smith advised that the patrol units are busy trying to slow traffic down. The detectives are working on recent breaking and entering cases. Smith will be meeting with citizens within the respective communities to encourage the development of Community Watch Programs and to assist the citizens with becoming better observers and witnesses. Smith encouraged all residents to write down serial numbers of possessions, install security lights and keep doors locked. Smith recommended citizens sign up for the House Safety Check program when leaving for an extended period of time.

Public Works – Dustin Graham, Public Works Director, advised that the 32nd Street and 8th Street beach access walkway have been repairs and are open. Graham advised that restrooms closes to Main Street are being removed from the island for repairs and maintenance.

Planning & Inspections – Wes MacLeod, Planner Consultant, advised the Council that the Planning Board has decided to meet only once a month until the Planner position has been filled. MacLeod advised that the Board is currently reviewing the procedures for tree removal, a text amendment for the MB-1 Zoning District and prioritizing their workload and agenda items.

Fire – Chief Dempsey advised that the Fire Station 2 crew has been reassigned to Station 1 temporarily while some issues at Station 2 are resolved. Dempsey advised that meeting are being set up in respective communities to discuss fire safety measures with the citizens. Dempsey advised that Municipal Chiefs and County Representatives are discussing fire fees vs. fire tax, more information is forthcoming.

Finance – Bonnie Bray, Finance Director, reviewed the December 2016 Finance Statement with the Council. Bray advised that the 2015/2016 audit is on track for completion and submittal to the LGC by the extended February 28, 2017 deadline.

Old Business

Consideration to Award Park Covered Seating Area Construction Contract

Susan Parker advised that one (1) bid was received from Carolina Creations totaling \$38,820 for the construction of the 22' X 22' covered seating area in the Town Park.

COUNCILMAN BENTON MADE A MOTION TO AWARD THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE TOWN PARK COVERED SEATING AREA TO CAROLINA CREATIONS FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$38,820. MAYOR FORRESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Parker advised that two (2) items remain to satisfy the PARTF Grant requirements, the observation deck construction and the floating dock repairs.

Consideration of Acceptance of Planning Board Recommendation for Ordinance Amendment for Article 2 Section 2.20 Maintenance of Docks, Piers & Bulkheads and Schedule a Public Hearing for March 6, 2017 at 7:00 pm

MAYOR PRO-TEM SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION AND TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR MARCH 6, 2017 AT 7:00 PM CONCERNING THE PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENT FOR ARTICLE 2 SECTION 2.20 MAINTENANCE OF DOCKS, PIERS AND BULKHEADS. MAYOR FORRESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Old Business (Cont.)

Consideration of Approval of 2017/2018 Budget Calendar and Discussion for Proposed Council Projects List or Items to Include with the upcoming Budget

Bonnie Bray reviewed the proposed 2017/2018 Budget Calendar with the Council. The Council reached a consensus to schedule the Budget Work Sessions for May 2nd, 3rd and 4th if needed and the hold the Budget Public Hearing on June 5, 2017.

Consideration of Adoption of the Final Draft of the CAMA Land Use Plan

Wes MacLeod, Planner Consultant and Greg Jensen, Planning Board Member presented the final draft of the CAMA Land Use Plan update to the Council. The Council thanked the Planning Board for their work over the past year revising the Plan update and agreed that Council should hold a special meeting after each member has had an opportunity to review the document individually and tentatively scheduled the March 21st Meeting for the initial Council discussion.

Consideration of Adoption of Chapter 95 Ordinance Amendment for 95.01 Definitions and 95.07 Placing Obstructions on the Beach Strand to Remove, Replace and Add Language Regulating Placement of Cabanas

The Council reviewed the final amendments to Section 95.07 noting the cabana installation time equals the beginning construction time allowed; the prohibition of cabanas between 1st and 27th Streets will remove them from the most congested area on the strand; and keeping the distance between the cabanas at 10' will prohibit someone from installing a cabana between two (2) that were already in place.

MAYOR PRO-TEM SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS FOR SECTION 95.01 AND 95.07 AS AMENDED. MAYOR FORRESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE. MAYOR PRO-TEM SCOTT, COUNCILMAN BENTON, COUNCILMAN LARKIN AND COUNCILMAN CORBETT VOTED YES. COUNCILMAN CERRATO VOTED NO. THE MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE.

Councilman Cerrato voiced opposition to the Council tweaking the cabana regulations yearly; questioned if these amendments will assist the Beach Patrol staff with policing the cabanas and advised that cabanas is a reserved area of the strand which is not a proper use of the land.

Dredging Discussion Concerning Scoping Meeting

COUNCILMAN CERRATO MADE A MOTION TO PROVIDE THE JANUARY 4, 2017 ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE (ERC) REPORT TO MOFFITT AND NICHOL FOR RESPONSE TO THE COMMITTEE QUESTIONS AND FOR THE REPORT TO BE SENT TO THE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES ON THE SCOPING COMMITTEE. MAYOR FORRESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE. COUNCILMAN CERRATO AND COUNCILMAN BENTON VOTED YES. MAYOR PRO-TEM SCOTT, COUNCILMAN LARKIN AND COUNCILMAN CORBETT VOTED NO. THE MOTION FAILED.

COUNCILMAN BENTON MADE A MOTION TO PROVIDE THE ERC REPORT TO MOFFITT AND NICHOL FOR RESPONSE TO THE COMMITTEE QUESTIONS. MAYOR FORRESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE. COUNCILMAN BENTON, MAYOR PRO-TEM SCOTT, COUNCILMAN CORBETT AND COUNCILMAN LARKIN VOTED YES. COUNCILMAN CERRATO VOTED NO. THE MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY VOTE.

Old Business (Cont.)

Consideration of Approval of Fire Truck Financing Terms

Bonnie Bray, Finance Director, informed the Council that the terms of the original RFP for the Fire Truck financing resulted in no bidders; however, South State Bank has offered terms of 2.5% interest rate for 5 years or 2.74% interest rate for 10 years. Bray explained that in order for the Council to consider the 2.5% interest rate for the 5 year term, the RFP would need to be amended and re-advertised.

MAYOR PRO-TEM SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE SOUTH STATE BANK BID OF 2.74% INTEREST RATE FOR A 10 YEAR TERM. MAYOR FORRESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

New Business

Consideration of Acceptance of Planning Board Recommendation for Riverside Drive Property Rezoning and Zoning Map Amendment and to Schedule a Public Hearing for March 6, 2017 at 7:00 pm

MAYOR PRO-TEM SCOTT MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION FOR THE RIVERSIDE DRIVE PROPERTY REZONING AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT AND TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR MARCH 6, 2017 AT 7:00 PM. MAYOR FORRESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Consideration of Acceptance of Planning Board Recommendation for Gateway Corridor Property Rezoning and Zoning Map Amendment and to Schedule a Public Hearing for March 6, 2017 at 7:00 pm

COUNCILMAN CORBETT MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION FOR THE GATEWAY CORRIDOR PROPERTY REZONING AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT AND TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR MARCH 6, 2017 AT 7:00 PM. MAYOR FORRESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Consideration of Acceptance of Planning Board Recommendations for Article 13 Ordinance Amendments Requiring Completion of Infrastructure Construction Prior to Final Plat Approval and to Schedule a Public Hearing for March 6, 2017 at 7:00 pm

COUNCILMAN CORBETT MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION FOR THE PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENTS FOR ARTICLE 13 TO REQUIRE THE COMPLETION OF INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION PRIOR TO FINAL PLAT APPROVAL AND TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR MARCH 6, 2017 AT 7:00 PM. MAYOR FORRESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Review upcoming Agenda Items and Identify New Agenda Items for February 21, 2017 Meeting

The Council reviewed the Disposition of Directives for the February 21, 2017 Meeting and made the following amendments:

- Added Outdoor Grilling Ordinance Consideration
- Resolution Concerning COBRA Area Consideration
- Dredging Motions Consideration

Parker reminded the Council that the February 21, 2017 Meeting is also a Planning Session for the upcoming budget work session.

New Business (Cont.)

Beacon Editorial Transparency

Councilman Cerrato cited a recent Brunswick Beacon newspaper editorial concerning transparency and questioned how the Town could create better transparency to portray a positive appearance.

Public Comments

Nina Marable 502 North Shore Dr. – Commented about the dredging survey conducted by the Sunset Beach Taxpayers Association and the dredging information provided to the citizens. Mayor Forrester requested a copy of the dredging information provided to the citizens.

Ray Zetts 402 2nd St. – Requested the Council to consider installing a speed bump or speed calming device along North Shore Drive East and 6th Street as the area is becoming a drag strip for speeders.

Tom Norman 1515 North Shore Dr. – Questioned when to new Flood Zone Maps would be approved. Parker advised FEMA still in the appeal phase and might be 2018 before final maps are approved.

Charles Nern 647 Oyster Bay Dr. – Commented that the Town does a good job being transparent.

Roy Cundiff 598 Kings Trail – Encouraged the Council to look for speeding problem solutions.

Adjournment

COUNCILMAN BENTON MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE FEBRUARY 6, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING. MAYOR FORRESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Town of Sunset Beach

Robert Forrester, Mayor

Submitted by:

Lisa Anglin, Town Clerk